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MAGAZINE.

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ROCHESTER, N. Y., APRIL, 1895.

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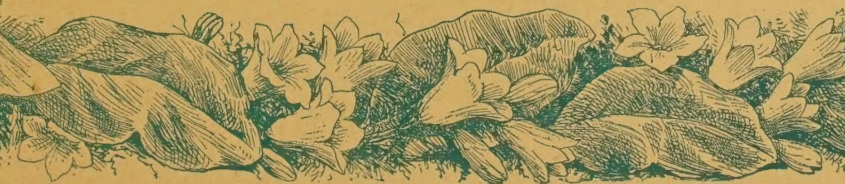
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VICK'S MAGAZINE.

Vol. 18.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., APRIL, 1895.

No. 6



THE PANSY CLUB.

"Oh, dear," said May Ferris one Saturday afternoon in April, "it is so sunny and warm it wouldn't hurt anyone's plants to be out, and it might be, and ought to be done anyway."

"If it ought to be done, it can be," said Aunt Mary, placidly, "and if you will please explain what it is, perhaps we can devise some means to accomplish it."

"Now, girls, you needn't laugh at everything I propose doing," cried May. "Aunt Mary is the only one who ever encourages me the least bit, and Kittie, and Nelly, and the rest of you, actually sit down on every thing I propose."

"That is a little too bad, I think," said Kitty Green, "when you know you never proposed anything, only said 'it ought to be done.'" And the girls smiled again at impulsive May.

Aunt Mary was aunt by courtesy to half the village, but with no ties of actual relationship to any of them excepting May, who was her only sister's child, and who had lived with her since her parents' death a few years before. Her Sunday School class of young girls spent an hour or two every Saturday afternoon with her and talked over in an informal way the lesson and any other work they were specially interested in. Aunt Mary was used to May's habit of thinking things over and only giving her conclusions, and knew that with all the impulsiveness of her speech there was undoubtedly some plan in her mind.

"What is it, dear?" she asked, not looking up from her needle work.

"Why, Auntie, the church looked so bare last Sunday I wondered if we could not brighten it up a little, now the weather is so much warmer. There are our primroses, and sweet-scented geraniums, and I was wondering if Mrs. Green would let us take her lovely apple-blossom pelargonium, and if Mrs. Lee would lend her magnificent sword-fern for the small table on the end of the platform; it seems to me it would look as if we cared a little for our Father's house, at least. Why isn't it somebody's business to look after such things, I should like to know."

"It is," said Aunt Mary, "and perhaps the desire to do so, indicates that it is especially your business just now."

"Say *our* business, if you please," said Kitty Green, "for that pelargonium is my very own, and I will get the key of the church and at four o'clock precisely will appear with it at the church door."

"And I with the sword-fern," said Annie Lee. "I know mother will be glad to send it, for she was wishing the other day that someone would do this very thing."

The other girls offered plants, but Aunt Mary thought that nothing very elaborate ought to be attempted by such inexperienced hands, and that brightening up the church a bit could be accomplished with the things already spoken of. "Next Sunday," said she, "three more of you can take it in hand and see what you can do. Suppose Lucy, Nelly and

Kate take their turn next, for I heard Lucy say her mother's white lilies were budded, and we do not want to miss them, now we are really trying to do something."

"And the next Sunday?" questioned May.

"Why, if you girls really want to do this, I see no objection to continuing the work, and instead of grumbling because someone does not see to it, you might take up the responsibility yourselves. It will mean work, for you will have to plan for a succession of plants and flowers through the season, and it will want a 'continuance in well doing' after you are started. If you take up the work as a class it must be systemized, and each one must do her part. In a little village like this no one ever thinks of buying flowers, and you will have to depend upon your own gardens."

"That is so," said Kitty Green, "and I will plant lots of them. My list of seeds is all ready to send away, but I will add a few more."

"What are you sending for, Miss Kitty?" queried Aunt Mary.

"Oh, pansies, petunias, allyssum, ageratum, and some sort of a collection that comes cheap, I can't remember half of them. Those I shall add will cost a little more, but we shall have them."

"Don't send for them just yet, said Aunt Mary. I really believe you have struck a good thing, and something you can do with benefit to yourselves and to the church, and we will not go about in a hap-hazard way. If you will come again Monday evening we will try to think out the best way to begin. It seems to me it would be best to organize into a club or society, or something of the kind, and each one of you may propose a name for it; that will give us eight to choose from, and we ought to get a good one. Almost four o'clock, so away for the key and plant, Kitty."

Monday evening found the same group assembled, and by this time a good deal of latent enthusiasm had been developed in their plan, or rather their planning. Kitty Green brought in a list of flower seeds she proposed sending for, and which the others declared would be sufficient to plant half the gardens in the village. Among the names proposed for the society was the Decorative Committee, which was voted to be too old; The Flower Missioners, which was too absurd; and the Good Cheer Club, which May declared "was not easy enough to speak, for they were going to speak it so often they wanted something nice." When little Ruth Wait modestly suggested "The Pansy Club," there was not a dissenting voice, and the name was adopted. "We might have for our motto," said May, "'There's pansies, that's for thoughts,' for I am sure we shall have to do a great deal of thinking to make our club a success."

The rest of the story must wait for another day. SARAH A. GIBBS.



RING AROUND A ROSY.

"Ring around a rosy,
A pot full of posy,"
Sang four little maidens
In the long, long ago;
Sweet the childish voices sounded
From the quaint old garden, bounded
With marigolds and celandine
And dahlias all arow.

"Ring around a rosy,
A pot full of posy,"—
The humble-bees were droning,
And the thrush sang overhead.
Mid the honeysuckle, timing
His glad music to their rhyming,
A bluebird trilled and warbled
Till the summer day had fled.

"Ring around a rosy,
A pot full of posy,"
The marigolds are blooming
And the dahlias nod, arow;
Still the thrush's song, now falling
Through the twilight shades, seems calling,
Calling those little maidens back
From dear old long ago.
Cambridge, Vt. —NELLIE H. CHAPMAN.

INSECT FOES.



IN our small place it is a continual warfare to see whether we or the insect pests will come out ahead. I do not deny that so far it has been about an even thing, but now we begin to hope we are getting the best of the bargain. To begin with the insects that infest house plants, we have the mealy bug, aphid or green louse, red spider, scale bug, and the tiny white worms in the soil. They are all easily managed if one knows how, and there is no need of having any of the first three named if proper attention is paid to spraying the plants. The red spider especially cannot endure moisture. I have hardly missed a day of spraying my plants this winter and have had none of the three named except perhaps half a dozen little, weak, sickly green lice on a carnation plant.

The scale bug infests woody plants, like ivies, sword-fern, marguerites, feverfew, and fuchsias. Often they are seen in such small quantities that they can be removed by rubbing off with a stick. When they continue to appear, wash the stalk of the plant with a solution of whale oil soap, and they will generally be routed.

Worms in the soil often cause great damage before one knows of their existence. A little ammonia put in the water used on them will usually give the desired result. Another remedy is one tablespoonful of mustard in a gallon of water; let it stand all day, stirring often, then soak the soil with it.

Taken in time, none of these pests are very much trouble, but they work so fast that one must keep up the fight against them or come out second best.

When the mealy bug makes its appearance a little alcohol on a soft brush will kill both bug and eggs.

Out doors there is more trouble with insects, as there is such a wide field for their depredations that while fighting them in one place they are working hard in another. Those which

infest rose bushes are about the worst among the out door flowers. First comes the little saw-fly and lays its eggs on the leaves; these hatch out into the detested rose slugs. I fight these successfully with a solution of soap, salt and water: One pint soft soap, one pint salt and ten gallons of water, applied with a garden syringe or force pump. Usually two applications are necessary, one when the leaves are unfolding, and again when the flower buds are half grown. White hellebore can be used also,—one pound of the powder to twenty-five or thirty gallons of water, and if a little flour is mixed with the powder it will adhere to the leaves better.

The rose bugs come next and finish the flowers after the slugs have spoiled the foliage. There seems to be no sure ways of getting rid of the bugs except by hand picking, and where one has many roses it seems an endless task. Last season we saw no rose bugs in this locality and only a few the year before, but we do not dare to hope for an entire release from them.

The slugs found on cherry, plum and other fruit trees are very much like those on the roses and yield to the same treatment.

Our currant and gooseberry bushes have been saved for the last three years from the worms by spraying with white hellebore, in the same proportion as given for rose slugs. Some people use Paris green, which does the work well, but we prefer the hellebore as it is not so dangerous. The currant stem borers are harder to overcome. The only practical plan seems to be to cut out all the affected wood in the fall and burn it, and thus destroy the borers inside.

The large tomato worms are about the worst looking things we have to deal with in the garden. There is only one redeeming feature about them—that is they are large enough to be easily seen and destroyed. So far we have no way but hand picking to get rid of them. Last year when taking them from the vines I placed some of the very largest of them in boxes which were two-thirds full of earth. I placed wire screens over the tops of the boxes, and fed the worms tomato leaves every day until they were full grown and ready to go into a chrysalis state; then they went down into the earth and buried themselves, and I placed the boxes in the cellar where they yet remain. The children are watching closely to see them emerge in the form of beautiful moths.

Aphid on apple trees yield readily to spraying with kerosene emulsion. The apple worm or codling moth can be killed by spraying with a solution of Paris green—one pound to 200 gallons of water. One application will usually do the work, unless a heavy rain should wash the poison off. It should be applied at the time the blossoms fall.

Ants often cause untold trouble in a garden, and no insect pest is harder to get rid of. They can be trapped in fresh bones, or sweetened water in a sponge, but it is a slow process. The best way we have found is to pour strong alum water boiling hot into the hill, using one pound of alum to three gallons of water for the solution.

The cabbage worm is a very common source of trouble to the gardener, the eggs being laid by the white butterflies in May. The use of insect powder or pyrethrum seems to be the best

remedy. It can be used dry and applied with a bellows, or dissolved in water in the proportion of one tablespoonful to two gallons of water and applied with considerable force.

The striped squash or cucumber beetles that eat up the young plants of melons, cucumbers and squashes as soon as they appear above the ground, are a pest hard to control. We often place boxes covered with netting over the hills as soon as the plants appear and thus keep the bugs away until the plants are so large that they outgrow the boxes, when they usually are too strong to be affected by the bugs. The plants can also be treated with ashes and kerosene—one tablespoonful of the oil mixed with two quarts of ashes—repeating the dose every few days.

The squash vine borer has caused more trouble than any other pest in the vegetable garden, and so far we have found no sure cure for it. Sometimes the borers can be removed by cutting them out of the stalk and then binding it up securely. Coal tar placed on cobs among the vines about the 1st of July will sometimes drive them away; but the way that bids fair to be the most successful is to layer the vines by hoeing the dirt over them about two feet away from the root. This will cause them to form new roots at those places, and then the fruit can mature even if the root is killed.

The troublesome squash bugs which appear in June and lay their eggs on the leaves are a great pest. The ashes and kerosene recommended for the striped beetle will sometimes bother them, but nothing seems to drive them away. They can be trapped under shingles and killed, but it is a slow process. BERNICE BAKER.

WALLFLOWER.

IN the spring of '93 I sowed the single wallflower, supposing it would bloom the first year, which was not the case. The large plants I had stood out all winter without protection and looked fresh and good in spring, but they died without starting any new growth. In the early summer a lady to whom I had given a few of the seeds told me to go to a certain bed in her yard and see what that strange plant was. I went and found a dark red wallflower just coming into bloom. The bed was in the lee of a fence and there is always a heavy snowdrift upon it, which is apt to lie quite late in spring, and by the way it is an extra good place for pansies in winter because of this snowbank.

By this we see that the single wallflower hovers on the verge of hardiness in my winterbound location (42° 30'), with altitude enough to delay the spring fourteen to twenty days as compared with the Hudson River valley in the same latitude. A degree or two less of latitude, or good protection here, would ensure success with this fine plant. Its seed comes up as quickly and easily as peppercrass. E. S. G.

COSMOS SELF-SOWING.

I noticed a writer in the February number of the Magazine says of the cosmos: "In warm climates it may be sown in autumn." My climate (latitude of Boston) is not very warm, there is in fact a lively and energetic winter, with deep snows and lots of zero spells, but the cosmos self-sows without fail.



721. HORIKIRI IRIS FLOWER GARDEN, AT TOKIO.

A JAPANESE IRIS GARDEN.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

A JAPANESE IRIS GARDEN.

The ornamental gardens of the Japanese form a very distinctive feature in all of the large cities. In connection with them there are usually large and beautifully kept tea-houses, which are the Japanese clubs. In many of these gardens or parks a portion is devoted to the growth of the iris, which when in full bloom, as shown in the accompanying picture, gives a most beautiful display. In Japan there is a constant succession of flowers, from the appearance of the early plum and cherry blossoms to the departure of the last of the chrysanthemums late in the year, so that the national passion for flowers is constantly gratified, first with one and then another. The iris has a host of special admirers who give great attention to its cultivation and develop it in great perfection.

In regard to the cultivation of the iris by the Japanese a very good description is given by Mr. C. Maries, a plant collector, who traveled in the country a few years since, and afterwards published an account called "Rambles of a Plant Collector." He visited the iris gardens, and probably the very one here illustrated. His statement shows a very peculiar method of cultivation:

"A piece of ground is chosen that can be easily flooded, and it is well dug or plowed while under water. When the plants commence

growth they are planted in rows, generally three feet apart, in this mud bed, or sometimes after flowering is over. Water is allowed to stand all around the plants until after flowering. It is then gradually drawn off and the ground is allowed to dry up for the winter. I believe the Japanese never water the plants in winter, and I think they are protected with straw, leaves or ashes at that season. They manure with excrement only, and this is put on in weak liquid state, every week or so, when the plants are growing. This is how Japanese nurserymen grow irises; if any of my readers should go to Japan, don't miss the iris nurseries at Horikiri, about three miles from Yeddo, in May. Irises are also grown continually in water, but never so fine, nor so healthy as when grown as just mentioned."

NEW PLANTS IN EUROPE.

A MID-WINTER tour in Northern Europe reveals many interesting points in a horticultural way to Mr. Mott, who writes an account of it to the *Florists' Exchange*. A large amount of glass about London is devoted to fruit and plant culture. The varieties of grapes which are thus raised are Black Hamburg and Gros Colmar. Great quantities of the lily of the valley are forced, and ferns are largely raised, taking the lead even of palms. *Acacia armata*

and *A. Drummondii* are very popular. Cyclamens are largely grown; all are bloomed in five and six inch pots. Large quantities of narcissus, Roman hyacinths and Safrano and Marechal Niel roses are sent from the south of Europe. According to this observer the growers of carnations in England and on the Continent meet with poor success, "chiefly owing to the absence of sunlight." Their idea of quality of bloom is to us crude. In commenting to a London grower upon the invariability of the bursted calyx he remarked that 'it could be tied with a string, or better, a rubber band.' (!) "Large blocks of *Vinca purpurea* alba are well grown and sell freely in Berlin. Lilac Charles X is successfully forced and sells well as a pot plant; also the new double Mme. Lemoine, which forces white. The individual bloom is very similar to a miniature tuberosa; it is of great promise." Several fine varieties of seedling cannas were noticed which are acquisitions. "A new cyperus, named *gracilis*, is very pretty and must become popular for fern dishes; it is much finer than *alternifolia*. *Veronica folis variegata* will be a plant much in demand for bedding purposes, also some exquisite new kinds of rex and flowering begonias. *Tradescantia superba*, a fine large hairy form, an improvement on *T. regina*, is noticed as among the novelties."

REX, OR ORNAMENTAL FOLIAGED BEGONIAS.

THE Rex, discolor, or ornamental foliaged begonias, are warm greenhouse plants, growing from six to twenty inches in length by as much in breadth, and mostly of a dark purplish green color, which reflects a metallic luster, and is rendered the more effective by broad silvery bands extending around or throughout the leaves. In many varieties the leaf surface has a bullated or embossed appearance from an apparent fullness between intervening veins, while the underside is of a light purplish shade, with light green opposite the paler parts, and conspicuous purple veins. The plants bloom during the summer months, but the flowers are comparatively insignificant. The foliage, how-



REX BEGONIA.

ever, is very handsome, and well-grown specimens are well adapted for show or exhibition purposes, and for the decoration of the warm greenhouse or conservatory during the summer and winter months.

These begonias should be given a light open soil, consisting of one-third well decayed manure or leaf mold, two-thirds turfy loam, and a good sprinkling of bone dust; mix well and use the compost rough. The pots should be well drained and if one-third filled with bits of broken crock it will be none too much. After the plants are potted water sparingly until growth commences, when the supply can be gradually increased. Be careful not to over water or allow the sun to strike the leaves while wet. The plants require a warm atmosphere and during the summer months must have shade. They will also require to be re-potted about once a month until the end of July, when they can be given the final shift for the season.

The middle of April is the best time for dividing the plants, if necessary, re-potting and starting them into growth, and from that time until the end of July the plants should be placed in the warmest part of the house. They must not be crowded, but given sufficient space in which to properly develop themselves. In re-potting great care should be taken to avoid injuring the leaves. From September until April they should be given a temperature of from 55° to 60°, and an excess of moisture both overhead and at the roots must be guarded against.

Within the past few years a considerable share of attention has been bestowed on this class of begonias and the result has been the introduction of so many varieties that a selection of the most distinct is quite difficult, but I think the following list is a very desirable one:

Annie Dorner. This is a free growing variety with deeply pointed, very elegant, notched leaves in which the coloring is quite rich, the dark center and edge being velvety in texture, enclosing a silky zone showing the crossing of the red veins.

Bertha McGregor is of strong growth, producing an abundance of foliage, leaves long, pointed, with six deep notches resembling a palm leaf. In color the body of the leaf is silver, beautifully outlined with bronze.

Comtesse Louise Erdody. The leaves of this variety have a metallic luster, dark silvery in the center, shading into coppery rose towards the margins. A peculiarity that distinguishes it from all others is that the two lobes at the base of the leaf do not grow side by side, but one of them winds in a spiral-like way until there are four of these twists almost two inches in height lying on the top of the leaves.

Clementine is a rapid grower, the color of the stem and upper surface of the leaf being a beautiful bronze green, ornamented with large silvery spots arranged parallel with the ribs of the leaves; underneath the leaves are bronzy red.

Duchesse de Brabant is one of the softest in color and texture. The leaves have a dark plum green center edged with a broad zone of silver, gradually shading into bright green.

J. N. Latta is a rapid grower, with large pointed leaves of great beauty. The dark central color follows the ribs half way across the leaves, terminating in a bed of bright frosted nickle, while the edge shows a margin of red, green and silver.

Louise Closson is the brightest colored Rex yet introduced, the zone of rosy heliotrope being broad and very highly colored, while the metallic luster is very bright over the whole.



BEGONIA—COMTESSE LOUISE ERDODY.

Mrs. A. M. Mix has leaves of immense size and sharply pointed; their surface is mottled in two shades of green with a red edge, the whole having the appearance of being varnished.

M. Charrot. The greater portion of the leaf is silver, with a dark pointed center and edge. The entire leaf is covered with soft silvery pile, the edge being beautifully mottled.

Mrs. E. W. Scripps has highly colored leaves, the narrow fluted edge being of a bright rosy maroon, embroidered in silver and bordered with bright green, while the body of the leaf is shining silver, overcast with a distinct rosy lavender luster.

Perle Humefelt has sharply pointed leaves which show an exquisite combination of silver, bright silky green and deep maroon.

Rex, although an old variety, is one of the most effective. Leaves of a beautiful metallic luster, center and edge soft velvety green, a broad silvery zone terminating the point.

Ruth Friedly is a free growing variety, with leaves of a bright silvery luster, edged with bronze, with purplish veinings extending into the silvery center.

Sieboldi has leaves of a dark reddish green, with a very broad, light metallic band, bordered with green and all surmounted with a dark, ruffled, beautifully mottled edge.

Theodora has long pointed leaves which are toothed along the edges, while the body is of a soft green, closely veined with red and heavily blotched between the ribs with an intense, burnished metallic luster.

CHARLES E. PARNELL.

Floral Park, N. Y.

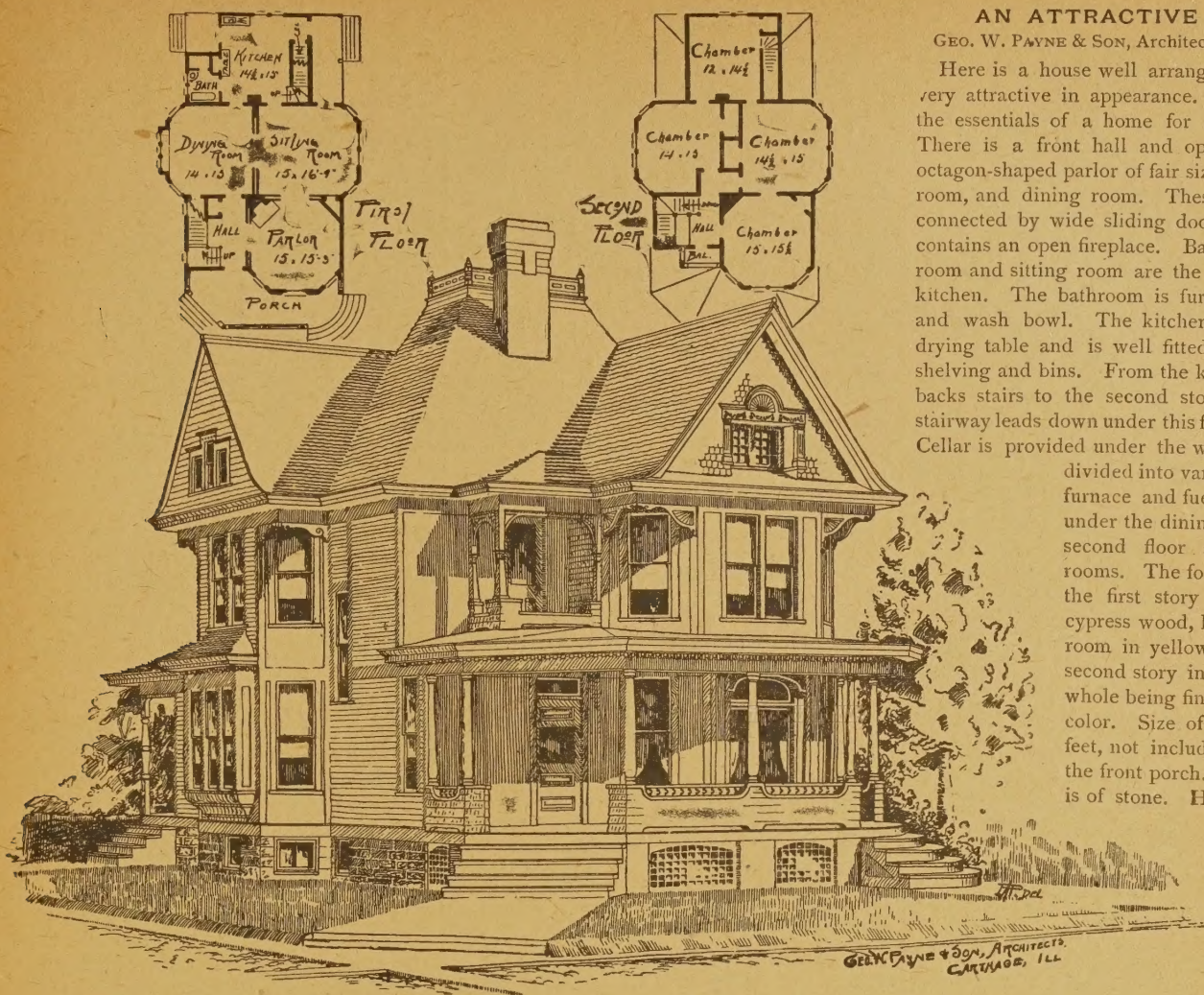
A PANSY'S LETTER.

I WONDER if you know us? It you don't, you may depend on it that you have missed something, for we are the happiest, jolliest crowd imaginable. Our dwelling is a most delightful place, situated upon the terrace, where we may nod at the passers-by and laugh at their hurry-



ing ways. We live in the same house, and in the greatest harmony, though all grades of society are represented,—emperors, kings, queens, lords, and dear little nobodys,—and still no parties or factions in our midst. We even tolerate a darkey, whom we call "King of the Blacks," and I sometimes think Dotty loves him best of all. I heard Marie tell her lover that we were so wonderfully sympathetic,—laughed when she was happy, and wept when she was sad. Marie is quite sentimental, and when she saw us weeping she must have been looking at Odier, the large-eyed, for his very name is suggestive of sadness. As for me, my mouth turns perpetually upward at the corners, and I do not believe anything could make me look sober. Our mission in the world is to look happy, and that is what we do mostly, I'm sure, for when Bridget, the washerwoman, comes, she laughs and says to Pat, her little boy, "And sure, Pat, just look at the grinnin' divils, it does my heart good to see 'em." At this we only nod and laugh the more, and the little boy claps his hands with delight. I long to go with him when he goes away, he looks so wistfully at us. If Dotty saw him I know she would let me.

ONE OF THE PANSIES.



AN ATTRACTIVE HOME.

GEO. W. PAYNE & SON, Architects, Carthage, Ill.

Here is a house well arranged in plan and very attractive in appearance. It contains all the essentials of a home for a small family. There is a front hall and open stairway, an octagon-shaped parlor of fair size, a large sitting room, and dining room. These rooms are all connected by wide sliding doors. The parlor contains an open fireplace. Back of the dining room and sitting room are the bath room and kitchen. The bathroom is furnished with tub and wash bowl. The kitchen has sink and drying table and is well fitted with cupboard shelving and bins. From the kitchen ascends a back stairs to the second story, and a cellar stairway leads down under this from the kitchen. Cellar is provided under the whole house and

divided into various rooms, with furnace and fuel rooms located under the dining room. On the second floor are four good rooms. The four front rooms of the first story are trimmed in cypress wood, kitchen and bath room in yellow pine, and the second story in white pine, the whole being finished in natural color. Size of building 33x48 feet, not including projection of the front porch. The foundation is of stone. Height of stories:

Cellar 7 feet,
first story 9½
feet, second
story 8½ feet.
This house is
well and thor-
oughly built in
every respect,

and painted outside three coats. Body color stone gray, trimmed in white, with black for sash and dividers. This house has been built after our plans, in Illinois, complete except furnace, for \$2,200, but would probably cost more in some localities.

KEEP UP WITH THE SEASON.—It is a great thing in gardening to keep up with the season. This is something hard to do in the month of April, but it is harder still in May. Push all work to the greatest extent this month.

THE TULIP POPPY.

AMONG the various novelties introduced last season there was none more striking or beautiful than the new tulip-flowered poppy. In form and color it resembles an immense blazing tulip, being of the most brilliant and intense scarlet, and forming a perfect tulip-cup with its two outer petals in which the inner petals stand erect and make a very dainty sort of pouch. As the flower grows older deep black spots appear at the base of the petals. Almost everyone is aware that to insure success with poppies the seeds should be sown very early in the spring in order that the plants may make good growth before their blooming season, but with this lovely variety I would also advise a second sowing in May, as one may then have them in bloom until frost. Sow them in a bed or in clumps by themselves, and the richly glowing scarlet will form a color effect beautiful beyond description. Unless one is skilled in transplanting it is wiser to sow the seeds where the plants are to bloom, but to insure very early bloom seeds may be sown early in the house and planted out when the second pair of leaves are well grown. If the roots are disturbed much the plants usually die, although it is said dipping them gently in wet mud so that each delicate thread-like root is well coated makes transplanting perfectly safe. No matter how many other beautiful flowers you may have there can be none more brilliantly lovely than this poppy.

MRS. S. H. SNIDER.

SWEET PEAS.

Be sure and get the seeds of sweet peas in this month. The vigor of the plants through the whole season depends largely on the early growth which they get when the weather is cool. Sow in deep trenches—four inches is a good depth—but cover only about one-third of the soil in at first. Draw it in as the plants grow. Make preparations as soon as the seeds are put in for training. Nothing is better than wire screen for trellis.

DOCTOR'S PRAISE

"AYER'S SARSAPARILLA is without an equal as a blood-purifier and cannot have praise enough. No other blood medicine I have ever used, and I have tried them all, is so thorough in its action and effects so many permanent cures as Ayer's Sarsaparilla."—Dr. H. F. MERRILL, 94 Western Ave., Augusta, Me.



Ayer's The Only Sarsaparilla

Admitted at the World's Fair.

AYER'S PILLS for Indigestion.

Letter Box.

In this department we shall be pleased to answer any questions relating to Flowers, Vegetables and Plants, or to publish the experiences of our readers. JAMES VICK

Grafting Wild Grape Vines.

Will either of the three following grapes, Brighton, Niagara, Moore's Early, do well grafted upon an ordinary wild sort? W. H. B.

Portage la Prairie, Manitou, Canada.

Either one, or all of them, will undoubtedly make a good union and grow well grafted on native stocks.

Window Plants. Cobœa Seeds.

Will you kindly tell me through the Letter Box

1—What plants will grow and bloom well in a north window?

2—Does the oxalis dislike the sun? I notice mine always shuts up its leaves when the sun shines on it.

3—Does the geranium Madame Salleri require different treatment from other geraniums? I treat mine the same as the other geraniums; they look thrifty, but that, although it grows, keeps its leaves curled up, which detracts from its appearance.

4—Does the seed of the Cobœa scandens require special treatment, and is it very long germinating? I planted mine edge down, as directed, three weeks ago and it shows no sign of growth. MRS. C. J. O. Moscow, Idaho.

1—We should not expect to have many flowers in a north window. Such a place can be occupied with palms, ferns, variegated leaved begonias and other foliage plants. Fuchsias will do fairly well in a north window and also oxalis floribunda. In winter spring bulbs will bloom there.

2—The oxalis prefers a little shade.

3—Geranium Madame Salleri is best adapted to planting in the open ground. If in the house it should be placed close to the window, as it needs a strong light.

4—Seeds of cobœa take a little time to start and do not need water if planted in moderately moist soil. The seeds are apt to rot if much moisture is given. After the plants begin to grow supply them with all the water they may need.

Woe from Overpotting.

I wish to ask your advice concerning my plants. They were beautiful last fall, but now they look entirely different. Those I valued the most are dead; ever blooming begonia was tipped over and the top broken off and it died; when I removed it from the pot I discovered it had made no new growth of roots. It bloomed constantly, but did not grow; I thought it was because it bloomed so freely, but an examination of the roots showed the cause. Please tell me the remedy, if possible, for I wish to try a new plant, but am afraid to do so without instructions. I potted it in a six-inch pot; was that too large for so small a plant? I put all the plants I received from you in five and six inch pots. My double white fuchsia, Mrs. Hill, also died; the leaves turned black and the stalks dried up as though it had been frozen; all my other fuchsias were standing beside it and they were all right. I found the soil filled with tiny white worms—all the pots have more or less of them. I have tried several remedies, but have found nothing which will effectually rid the pots of them. I have been told the soil is too rich—black soil, sand and leaf mold and well rotted manure. One fern you sent me has not grown any, though it is still alive; the roots are as dry and brown as if dead, but it has fine green leaves. I am sorry to lose it, so I cling to it still. I potted it first in a seven-inch pot and a lady told me to remove it to a wire basket; I did so and put moss at the bottom and some good soil around the roots; I had it that way all winter, and it still looks the same. My oxalis and rose bush are covered with a kind of rust which kills the leaves as fast as they grow; and the oxalis does not bloom. MRS. P. K. Helena, Mont.

The trouble in this case, it is plain to see, has

arisen in the first place from the use of too large pots and this has resulted in keeping an excess of moisture about the roots sufficient to check and prevent growth.

It has been shown that the little white worms can be destroyed by watering with a weak solution of saltpetre.

Insects.—Geraniums.—Window Boxes.

All my garden seeds last spring were selected from your catalogue and gave great satisfaction, especially the White Branching Aster.

Last spring I bought of you a variety of poppy seed and had a beautiful bed. Just as they were in perfection they were attacked by a black insect, like the aphid; stems and leaves, especially of the scarlet poppies, were covered with them. I tried hellebore and then kerosene emulsion, and succeeded in exterminating plants as well as insects. How shall I prevent the same misfortune this year?

I have a number of young geraniums in small pots, started last fall. I want them for next winter's blooming. What is the best treatment for them this summer—the open ground or plunging the pots?

Last year I had window boxes fitted with zinc troughs several inches deep. No holes were made for drainage and the plants died. Was it the action of zinc, or can I use them again with success by having holes made? MAINE ENQUIRER.

Yarmouth, Maine.

The kerosene emulsion was too strong. If the emulsion is to be used it should be prepared in small quantities before the time comes to use it and try its strength on a few plants. Weak tobacco water would have probably destroyed the insects promptly. Sulpho-tobacco soap dissolved in water is very effective and there is no danger in using it.

The geranium plants can be carried through the summer in either way. In the pots more attention will be required, but if the plants are kept growing thrifly they will be in a very satisfactory condition at the end of summer and be ready to go into winter quarters in good shape. If kept in the ground there will be something of a check in moving, unless the operation is carefully performed. If you are to be away from home a part of the summer the plants will be better in the ground than neglected in pots.

The only difficulty with the window boxes was lack of drainage and excess of water at the roots. The zinc had no special effect on the plants.

Diseased Raspberry Plants.

I am in trouble with raspberries. For several years our blackcap raspberries have been affected with some blight, sometimes before fruiting time, but usually after. The leaves on the large, thrifty new canes one after another will begin near the roots to turn yellow and drop, continuing on towards the tip, until after a week or two the stalk itself turns black and finally the whole plant is dead, or so nearly so as to never amount to anything. The Progress, Gregg, Lovett and Kansas, as well as the Japanese Wineberry. Oftentimes the plants are affected the second year so we get not even a sample of the berries. The Cuthbert seems to have another blight; the foliage of this has a puckered appearance, and if much affected will not grow or produce fruit. Ours is a light gravelly soil, fertilized with ground bone and wood ashes, with a little from the hen house. M. L. C.

Winsted, Conn.

The symptoms which are first described here apparently indicate the raspberry anthracnose, a disease now reported from many parts of the country. The description corresponds very closely with that given in the following words by the botanist of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Miss Freda Ditmars, as published in a bulletin in October, 1891:

"The fungus was first observed on the black-cap raspberry early in May, when the young shoots were about a foot high. On these shoots, at or near the

surface of the ground, appear small purple spots, which are round, distinct, and scattered irregularly on the canes. The spots rapidly increase in size and number, extending around and up the cane, the youngest spots being uppermost. At first purple, they soon become whitish in the center, with a raised purple border marking the line of separation between the healthy and diseased tissues. The white center dies, the border becomes brown, often the spots coalesce, when the dead epidermis ruptures, and we have ragged looking patches of several inches in length and entirely girdling the cane.

"The purple spots also occur on the leaf petiole, veins, and leaf tissue. The veins are a little swollen, and the affected petioles curl downwards. On the parenchymatous portion of the leaf the spots are much smaller than on the canes.

"The disease is not fatal the first season, nor does it seem to visibly affect the growth of the young canes, but the next season, when last year's young canes bear fruit, its destructiveness becomes but too apparent. The effects of the fungus are most noticeable at the time of the ripening of the berries, which do not attain to a normal size, but shrivel, and finally dry up; the leaves are much smaller than healthy ones, and have a generally unhealthy appearance, later turning yellow, then brown. The canes finally become blackened and die."

In the case mentioned of the Cuthbert the description is too brief to allow of any opinion to be formed of the disease. Very likely it is different from the others. It should be closely watched.

The remedies for anthracnose in the nature of the case must be preventive. The use of dilute Bordeaux mixture at the Ohio station produced good results, making four applications in the season; the first early in the spring before the leaves open; the second soon after the young canes appear above ground; the third about two weeks later; and the fourth and last just before blooming time. The mixture appeared to injure the leaves somewhat, and a weaker solution would probably be better; at least after the leaves appear.

At the New York Experiment Station at Geneva an experiment somewhat similar was conducted last summer and will be concluded this spring, and the full details, with results, will then be published.

All diseased canes should be removed from a plantation, and if raspberry growers will, themselves, experiment with Bordeaux mixture or with solutions of copper sulphate, they may reach some valuable results.

Spring Is Here

And spring is the time to attend to the condition of your health. The blood must be purified, the stomach and digestive organs toned, the liver regulated and the whole system built up. If this is done now by the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla, the great blood cleanser and strength builder, there will be little danger of sickness when the hot weather comes.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Is the Only True Blood Purifier

Prominently in the public eye today. This is why it is the best spring medicine. Insist upon Hood's. Do not be induced to buy any substitute.

Hood's Pills easy to buy, easy to take, easy in effect. 25 cents.

SPRING IS COME.



ONG months ago Mother Earth tucked herself under snow blankets and settled down for a comfortable siesta. She awoke the other day, much refreshed, and her handmaiden, Spring, is fashioning a fine new robe for her mistress. Have you seen no token of her presence? Come with me where the willows fringe the stream, and on their dry, leafless stalks you will find the gray furry buds that the children have christened "pussies," or catkins. Ah, spring is here, sure enough. The lowering skies seem brighter now. And, hark! was not that a bluebird's note? The chill of winter yet lingers in the air, the wan sunshine scarce warms the frozen mold, yet there he is, perched on the topmost twig of yon swaying elm, exchanging theories on nest making with the wife of his bosom.

If you would learn the secrets of nature you have only to seek nature's own dominion, the forest, on an April day. The unfolding leaf-buds, the tiny shoots pushing through the brown earth, clearly demonstrate her laws of progression. Perchance you regret the leafy shade of June time, yet think not the forest bare and cheerless because devoid of summer leaf and bloom. The interwoven branches of beech, elm and maple, outlined against the blue sky, are beautiful with their varying tints of pink and green as seen in the young leaves and bursting buds. The sunny banks are clothed with the pink-and-white spring beauty, and diligent search may reveal the delicate wood anemone, so fragile, seemingly, that a breath of wind would shatter its petals. Here in this sheltered nook, under the dead forest leaves, shy wood violets may soon be found, and ere long the trailing arbutus will come forth, blushing at its own temerity. As the rose is queen of the garden, so, surely, is the violet queen of the forest, and what flower more loved and admired by all?

"Sweeter than the lids of Juno's eyes
Or Cytherea's breath."

The wake-robin, the trillium and the hepatica are also flowers of the early spring, and we accord them a generous welcome. The dandelion, saucy little fellow, smiles upon you with a friendly yellow eye from every sunny slope and open glade.

You town dwellers know nothing of the delights of watching the earth's awakening. When you hear the flower girls calling through the streets "vi'lets, fresh vi'lets," you remember that somewhere outside your smoke-dimmed horizon the trees are budding and the young grass is changing the brown of the hills to tender living green. To the real lover of nature town life presents few attractions. He may tread miles of dusty pavement without giving a thought to the triumphs of architecture on either hand, conscious only of the height of the stone walls that bar out the air and sunshine, eager to find his way from the glare and turmoil of the city streets into pleasant fields and quiet woodland ways. Many a time you may see a coun-

try-bred lad step aside from the jostling throng and linger, with his heart in his eyes, at some flower stall, unable to tear himself away from the dainty blossoms, so unlike the rugged blooms of the home garden, yet bearing them kinship. Here are sweet peas, mother trained them over the window at home, but surely these gorgeous, flaunting blossoms have nothing in common with those modest flowers. Roses, too, but queenly La France, odorous Jacqueminots and delicate American Beauties would blush to own the flourishing Jonathans and Cinnamons that ran riot over the garden, making the whole place sweet. Ah, here is mignonette. There was always a little pot of it in the sitting room window; and he buys a bunch to lay on his desk, cheerfully denying himself the draught of hot coffee, so acceptable with the mid-day lunch, to atone for the unwonted extravagance.

Every running stream proclaims "Spring is here."

"The bluebird's carol and the wild bee's hum
Repeat the glad some message all day long."

Only yesterday robin came back to the nest in the old apple tree. You can hear his cheerful note although you may not see him, for the tree has put forth a wealth of snowy blooms—harbingers of an abundant harvest. Can it be there is such a thing as sorrow in this beautiful world? Why, the very mold, freshly turned in furrows, seems instinct with life, the sunshine is a benediction, the air is an elixir that stirs the sluggish pulse of age and sets the warm torrent of youth bounding madly through the veins. You feel that it is good to live. J. TORREY CONNOR.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

THE importance of a good kitchen garden cannot very well be over estimated, and the neglect of it is a serious defect in rural economy throughout the country. In our last issue it was sought to impress on our readers some idea of the value of the garden especially from a financial point of view. We now quote the following from the *Farm and Home*, exhibiting another phase of the subject, and this presentation of it is equally true:

"A large proportion of farmers have but a very inadequate idea of the value of a good home garden, and so it is persistently neglected. To very many farmers the garden work seems small and petty; they are used to larger fields and more extensive crops. Yet it may be safely stated that a well planned and well kept garden far outstrips in actual profit any other feature of the farm. We do not mean that it brings in large cash returns; its dividends are in the nature of improved health, of much relief from the burden of housewifely cares on the farm, and in its tendency to make home pleasant to all concerned. To the wife who presides over the table, and each day decides the bill of fare, a good, well stocked garden is a perpetual wellspring of comfort and delight, and every farmer who cares for his wife, as he told her he did when he was courting her, has grown a laggard in his duty if he fails to provide this ameliorator of her cares. We can, most of us, recall the average garden. Two or three messes of peas and they are all gone; beans are a little better, they last longer and there are more of them. Small fruits are not generally grown; the wives of untold thousands of farmers, after doing as big a day's work as the farmer ever does, go skirmishing about the fields for an occasional dish of berries, when they should have an abundant supply in the garden. Less than twenty per cent. of the farmers' gardens about the country have an asparagus bed; not one in ten will have a continuous supply of radishes, lettuce and other relishes the season through. The currant and gooseberry bushes are too often neglected and the worms which eat all the foliage are the only beneficiaries. Outside of the aid and comfort a good garden gives to the wife is the

wonderful happy effect it has in conserving the family health. Fried pork and potatoes for breakfast, boiled pork and potatoes for dinner and cold pork and potatoes for supper are not calculated to make either happy or healthful homes. There are hundreds of thousands of farmers and farmers' wives who are prematurely aged and impaired in health from, more than any other cause, bad living which a good garden would have changed. We cannot cheat Mother Nature. If we live badly we must pay the price, we cannot escape. The moral from this brief homily is obvious."

NARCISSUS vs. TULIPS.

IN a house where I go every day they potted a few tulips for winter flowers the past winter. From some defect in temperature or treatment they bloomed without forming stems, the flowers resting on the ground, and coming out so slowly the tips of the petals began to fade before they opened, thus having much the appearance of a failure. But a narcissus, like the picture of the Irish King in the catalogue, planted in the same pot has grown a foot high and bloomed beautifully; the flowers, still perfect, are two weeks old. This narcissus seems a much easier plant to succeed with than the tulip. No fire was kept nights, the plants being put into a deep box whose cover forms their table by day. The winter has been severe, but the geraniums, etc., show the box is frost proof, though the margin must have been narrow.

E. S. GILBERT.

THE COLD FRAME.

The early part of April will still be too cold in many parts of the north for sowing some tender seeds, and this is the time when a cold frame will be found exceedingly useful for seed sowing, as it will retain the heat at night and be warm through the day from the sun. It is not less useful as a place in which to transplant from the greenhouse or hotbed. It is also a good place for cabbage, cauliflower, celery, tomato, egg plant and pepper seeds.

SUCCESSFUL CROPS.—The main points in obtaining successful crops are these: First, a fertile soil properly prepared; second, a good strain or variety of seeds; third, timely planting; fourth, a good or uniform stand of plants on the ground; and lastly, good cultivation. The fourth point is a very essential one and should be carefully guarded.

Why Not

make the baby fat? For the thin baby is delicate, and is not half so cunning.

Give the thin baby Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites.

Scott's Emulsion is as easy a food as milk. It is much more effective in making thin babies fat, and they like it.

If all the babies that have been made fat and chubby and well by Scott's Emulsion could only tell their story to the mothers of other sickly babies!

There wouldn't be enough to go round.

Don't be persuaded to accept a substitute!
Scott & Bowne, N. Y. All Druggists. 50c. and \$1.



ROCHESTER, N. Y., APRIL, 1895.

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Japanese Gardens.

The Hon. W. J. Van Patten, Mayor of Burlington, Vermont, has recently returned from a trip to Japan, and has kindly supplied us with photographs of Japanese gardens, one showing masses of iris and another water lilies. These have been reproduced and the iris garden appears in this issue. The other will be given in a future number. The donor will please accept our thanks, a sentiment in which no doubt our readers sympathize, as the pictures greatly assist in conveying correct impressions of these phases of Japanese gardening.

Plant Physiology.

Students of botany and horticulture have had prepared for them an excellent manual in a work entitled "Experimental Plant Physiology," by Dr. Walter Oehls, and translated by D. T. Macdougall, of the University of Minnesota. Many of the physiological principles relating to plant growth are demonstrated in this work with great clearness and brevity by experiments which are fully described and illustrated, so that the pupil can easily perform them himself. As an introductory course it is an admirable one, and will greatly assist in laying a firm foundation for a thorough knowledge of the laws of plant life. It is a study which should have more attention in academic and college courses. Published by Morris & Wilson, Minneapolis, Minn.

A New Red Raspberry.

Mr. Z. H. Harris, of this city, has been cultivating for several years a seedling red raspberry of his raising, and which he claims is more productive than the Quinby strain of the Cuthbert. This last has up to this time been considered the most productive of all red raspberries. This seedling is called the Harris, and has been in the hands of the New York Experiment Station at Geneva for several years. In Collection No. 81 of that Station, December, 1894, the comparative yields of twenty-one va-

rieties of red raspberries are given and the Harris leads them all in productiveness, thus confirming the claims of the originator. It is only fair to say that the conditions were not the same with all the varieties, and in these respects the Harris had some advantage. But the record is a good one, and if maintained another season its reputation will be fairly established as a very productive variety; The quality is very good. The plant is low-growing and quite bushy, and according to Mr. Harris does not need to be topped.

A Veteran Horticulturist Gone.

One by one the great promoters of horticulture in this country pass over the river to the silent land. Wilder, Downing, Hovey, and Barry, and, lastly, Thomas, have left us, but their influence is now transmitted a hundred fold through those who have followed their examples. Mr. John J. Thomas died at his home at Union Springs, N. Y., on the 22d of February, at the age of 85 years. He has probably been most widely known as the author of *The American Fruit Culturist*, which for the last half century has been a standard work, passing through several revisions, and which is now a high authority. During all this time Mr. Thomas, ranking with Charles Downing, has been recognized as an eminent pomologist. But Mr. Thomas was a horticulturist in the widest sense of the term. He learned and applied the principles of horticulture, and all his life was an exponent of the subject as editor of the *Country Gentleman*, and as a writer of various publications. He was a practical fruit grower and gardener, and a keen observer of nature. He was a man of unblemished honor and fine morals, of a gentle and retiring disposition and great refinement. His sympathies were quick to respond to appeals of any kind for aid; the cause of education was a favorite one to him, and he has been especially useful in this respect. In view of his acquirements and abilities he received many years since the degree of Master of Arts. Mr. Thomas was the first President of the Association now known as the Western New York Horticultural Society, and always attended its meetings until some four or five years since. The world is the better for his living.

A New History of the United States.

When the announcement was made that a History of the United States, for schools, had been written by John Fiske, LL.D., it was right to infer, by those acquainted with the author's writings, that it was a superior work. An examination of the volume by the writer has fully confirmed this pre-conceived opinion. Two principal points noticeable in this work are, first, the selection of the salient events in each epoch of the narration, and by a masterful manner of treatment indicating its relation to the past and projecting its influence into the future, while minor events are grouped in connection with it. Thus the prominent events, or predominant causes, systematically arranged, form the warp which can be traced continuously from the beginning to the end, while the minor incidents fall naturally into place, constituting a perfect fabric. "I have, therefore, aimed,"

says the author, "above all things, at telling the story in such a way as to make it clear, how one event led to another."

Second, the narrations are in simple and concise language; clearness and brevity are remarkably attained. As the history embraces the time from the discovery of America to the present administration, a mass of details has necessarily been omitted, but, for the purpose of enabling the pupil to acquire full and exact information, he is referred to reliable historical writings, and the topical questions are such that it becomes necessary that these should be consulted, thus inducing a valuable habit of investigation. The work is very fully and excellently illustrated, primarily for instruction, not merely for embellishment. There are also a number of maps of different periods, and illustrative maps. This book must take a first rank as a school history in this country. Published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston, Mass.

The Spread of the San Jose Scale.

There is great fear among orchardists that this scale, which especially infests plum and pear trees, will rapidly spread throughout the country. It appears that it is all the time being brought in on California fruits, and in this way distributed, so that its distribution may be far more rapid than if spreading only from orchard to orchard. It has also found lodgement in some nurseries, and so may be sent out in young stock. Every nurseryman, fruit grower and farmer should examine his trees, and if the scale is discovered the proper means taken to destroy it. The spring treatment consists in spraying the trees with kerosene emulsion when the young larvæ are observed crawling about. This treatment should be practiced at least three times with an interval of a week each.

BURGUNDY ROSE.—Mrs. A. C. Dyke, of Bridgewater, Mass., Post Box 177, wishes to obtain a Burgundy Rose of some one having it to spare.

Fit And Misfit

The corset that fits costs no more than the corset that doesn't. Dr. Warner's Coraline Corsets are fitted to living models.

A TRUE STORY.



LARI, here is something nice for your school. Shall I write for it?" I stepped into the sitting room and found my sweet invalid mother with VICK'S MAGAZINE for April, 1882, in hand, where she had found an offer of a collection

of twelve varieties of seeds of desirable free blooming annuals to each of the five schools of each county of every State that should first apply for them.

She wrote—and I was very sure of them, as the Magazine was always scanned from cover to cover the day it came, so I knew the offer was "fresh." The school was a Grammar Grade in a little town in central Iowa, which I had taken the preceding fall under strong protest from my friends because of its reputation for "bad boys." I accepted the position and found that the school had not been slandered. There they were—rough, coarse, uncultured boys, from whom no one expected anything but rudeness, and they seemed to delight in such notoriety and to be utterly devoid of self-esteem and honest pride.

The seeds came, and I said "Boys, where shall we plant them? People tell me that some bad boy will tear them up; besides our school ground is not fenced and cattle will run over them." Up came the hand of one of the incorrigibles and at the same instant the statement: "We can make a lath fence." So a collection was taken and the dear "bad boys" purchased lath and solid posts, which latter they set deep and well. We enclosed a spot twenty-four feet square with a neat fence, with gate and padlock—I planned and the boys did the work, much of it by moonlight, as it chanced to be bright nights and we were in a hurry. I laid the ground out in the shape of the Greek cross; now they would say it was a C. E. or E. L. emblem, and it was an emblem between their hearts and mine. I subdivided the arms of the cross by paths; for these the boys brought gravel from a stream near by—bright showy pebbles. The boys did the spading and the girls planted the seed; all were anxious to have a hand in it. We had a clump of sweet peas for the center and graded out to edge of ground and arms of cross according to height.

Then began a course of watering and care, and oh, what joy when the first little green leaves appeared; then the weeding began. Every step was a pleasure. Never had I more industrious pupils; the fortunate one who mastered lessons first was granted the sweet pleasure of taking the key and spending the moments so earned in the garden. How those tender plants were cared for, watered and watched, and how the rough natures changed. I have ever felt that it was a turning point in some of their lives—a softening, refining influence that caused these to grow like the flowers and blossom into purer manhood and womanhood.

Never had a garden greater care and each seed seemed to respond by giving forth its best. Not a variety failed us and when the fall term

began our garden was a little paradise—but the dear donor of the seeds had gone to the paradise above. The children mourned him as a friend and suggested sending a bouquet of our sweetest blossoms for the resting-place of the dear benefactor. When in the next Magazine a picture of our little gift was given with an extract from the letter which accompanied it, the joy of being appreciated was softened by the sorrow of our loss, otherwise it would have been complete.

Why do I write this? I will tell you: For nine years the mother who ordered the seeds has been resting

"Beneath the low, green tent
Whose curtains never outward swing."

Last summer I visited the old home town. Many of my former pupils have homes of their own and in one of them I found treasured up the old Magazine and catalogue which also mentioned our little story. The most incorrigible boy of them is a respected citizen. That summer of culture—floral and mental—impressed itself on us all and with good effect.

The thought occurred to me to write and encourage others to try the refining, softening effect of flowers, not only in their schools, but in their homes. So I wrote. C. W.

Maxwell, Iowa.

CERTAIN IRONCLAD FLOWERS.

CENTRAL-SOUTHERN Iowa is the high watershed between the two great rivers of the West. It is six hundred feet higher than the bottoms along the rivers. The soil is a sandy, friable loam, resting at a less or greater depth upon what is known as hardpan. It is susceptible to wet and to drouth. House plants that flourish with us may be truly called ironclad. The heat is excessive in summer; the thermometer drops nearly every winter to thirty degrees below zero. Plants that survive these extremes may certainly be called "perfectly hardy."

Many plants, like pæony and bleeding-heart, are at home much further north, and are common; but few know that the hyacinth is just as hardy. The finest flowers of this species I ever saw are in my own yard, and have never even received protection in winter. The narcissus is just as hardy. The auratum lily flourishes also if you can keep the moles and gophers away. These pests have a fondness for this lily over all other bulbs. The *Dictamnus alba* (*Fraxinella*) increases from year to year; so does the crimson-eyed hibiscus. The perennial larkspurs and phloxes flourish, and so does the columbine. These flowers have wild representatives with us, and in abundance. I have met, also, three species of lilies. The *Coreopsis lanceolata* is very desirable and exceedingly hardy. It flourishes without protection. The fragrant garden pink is an ironclad if left alone until it makes large clumps. All the irises prosper save certain *Kämpferi*, which live all right for me but have never bloomed.

The drouth last summer was very trying on ornamental plants, vines and shrubs, but my clematis survived; the purple Jackmanni, Henryi, a smaller purple, and the Coccinea. The *Akebia quinata* is very hardy and very satisfactory. Hall's honeysuckle, lives but is not at

home with us; the common sort is, and so is the trumpet creeper; *Ampelopsis Veitchii* is much too tender. I cut my clematis vines off at the surface of the ground early in the spring; they do better. The Chinese matrimony vine is hardy and looks well; the cinnamon vine does first rate, and the same can be said of the wistaria and the *Apios tuberosa*. We must not forget the yuccas, which increase in size and beauty every year; so with the *Hemerocallis flava*, or yellow day lily, it is a glorious flower. The white, blue and variegated leaved funkias need considerable protection in winter.

Of shrubs I would class as ironclads all the weigelas and spireas. The *Spirea Van Houttei* should be in every dooryard. Many hybrid perpetual roses are hardy, but I have found but one ironclad perpetual bloomer, the Dinsmore. Madam Plantier needs winter protection. I cover with dirt; it will pay to cover Madam Plantier, in fact no rose is damaged by protecting it in winter. The African tamarisk is very hardy, and no shrub is more ornamental in my grounds. The drouth killed nearly all the hydrangeas through this part of Iowa. Deutzias and forsythias are all tender; exochorda and the Japanese, or so-called Californian and European privets are all right; so is the calycanthus and mock orange. The bush honeysuckle is very vigorous. I have found erianthus and all three eulalias very desirable; last summer was very trying on them, but they survived well.

Tulips, jonquils, crocuses, and the like, do as well here, I take it, as in Holland. I have a corner devoted to hollyhocks, and the corner is full every year. All the attention they get is admiration.

Everything that I have mentioned can be found in my own grounds. None have been there less than four years, hence I speak with confidence. Every plant except those otherwise spoken of I consider as ironclad. I have others that I am trying, which will be reported. If I had been favored with such an article as this years ago it would have saved me much vexation of spirit and many dollars.

E. B. H.

TULIP MANIA.

WE see at short intervals allusions to the tulip mania in Holland, the writers mostly concluding the worthy Dutchmen must have had a great love for flowers. Perhaps, but this boom in tulips was due to the love of money. Lindley's Treasury of Botany says of it: "It is a mistake to suppose the high prices paid for bulbs, amounting in some instances to 2,500 and even 4,000 florins, represented the estimated value of a root, since these large sums often changed hands without any transfer of property. Bulbs were bought and sold without being seen, without even being in existence. In fact, they were the subject of a speculation not unlike that of railway scrip in this country (England) at no distant date."

A. paid a great price because he hoped to sell to B. at a profit, and so on, the last buyer getting bit.

E. S. G.

SUBSCRIBERS TO VICK'S MAGAZINE

Who have not received a copy of our catalogue and will inform us of the fact, enclosing 4 cents in stamps for one-half the postage, will receive a copy post-paid. Pitcher & Manda, Inc., Short Hills, N. J.

If Baby is Cutting Teeth,

Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea.

THE STANDARD DICTIONARY.

For the past five years a great work has been progressing and is now brought to completion. The Standard Dictionary has been issued, and an examination of it reveals an amount of work and research almost incredible, and at the same time elicits the highest commendation from the most critical students. Its achievement will be a gratification to all English speaking people, as it satisfies the demands equally of all classes. It is a fitting monument of literature erected at the close of a century characterized by greater literary and scientific activity than any other in the history of the world. The new thoughts and ideas of the age have brought into use a multitude of new words, and new meanings, and new usages have been adapted to old ones. Lexicography has not been idle during this time, for both in this country and in England during the last half century noted advances have been made, and new dictionaries and revisions of old ones, all of great value, have been sent out; and yet so fast have new meanings been applied that both artisan and scholar have turned away unsatisfied when seeking the meaning of some words at the highest fountains of English language lore. Only in the Standard Dictionary can it be said that we have a complete record up to date. In illustration of this statement it may be said that this great work contains over 300,000 words, being about 75,000 more than are found in the six-volume edition of the Century Dictionary, two and a half times more than Webster's International, three times as many as Worcester, and six times as many as Stormonth's. To accomplish this work hundreds of editors have been employed, those having been selected who were eminent in some special department of literature, science or art, and thus able to mention every word in use and to give its precise meanings in its different acceptations. The spelling and pronunciation has received the most careful attention by one of the highest authorities of the age, Prof. F. A. March, LL.D., and will be found satisfactory to the most severe critics. The definitions are very precise and are given with all their various shades. The synonyms of words are given very fully, and, what is an entirely new feature, their antonyms.

In a brief notice it is impossible to mention more than a few of the prominent features of this great work. It has been accomplished by the co-operation of the greatest scholars of this country and of England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, the East Indies, Australia and Canada. Nearly a million dollars have been expended in its preparation. In its typography it is faultless, in illustrations full, original and excellent, and in every particular deserving of the highest praise. It is lacking in no valuable features found in any other English dictionary, and contains new features never before presented. It should find a place in every editorial room, every public and private library, and in every school and institution of learning.

It is published by the Funk & Wagnalls Company, of New York, and can be procured through all booksellers.

"MAN'S inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn." We are not sure whom the author had in mind when he wrote the above lines, but we are quite confident that it could not apply with more force to any class of people in the world than to the man who allows his wife to wash on a washboard or with some of the cheap, worthless washers that are being sold when he has an opportunity to purchase a Rocker Washer. See advertisement in another column.

AN ELIXIR OF LIFE.

T. A. Slocum Offers to send Two Bottles Free of His Remedy to Cure Consumption.

Nothing could be fairer, more philanthropic or carry more joy in its wake than the offer of T. A. Slocum, M. C., of 183 Pearl Street, New York. Perfectly confident that he has an absolute remedy for the cure of consumption and all pulmonary complaints, he offers through this paper to send two bottles free to any reader who is suffering from lung trouble or consumption. He invites those desirous of obtaining this remedy to send their express and post-office address, and to receive in return the two bottles, which will arrest the approach of death. Already this remedy, by its timely use, has permanently cured thousands of cases which were given up, and death, in its sable robes, was looked upon as an early visitor.

Knowing his remedy as he does, and being so proof-positive of its beneficent results, Dr. Slocum considers it his religious duty, a duty which he owes to humanity, to donate his infallible remedy where it will assault the enemy in its citadel, and, by its inherent potency, stay the current of dissolution, bringing joy to homes over which the shadow of the grave has been gradually growing more strongly defined, causing fond hearts to grieve. The cheapness of the remedy—offered freely—apart from its inherent strength, is enough to commend it, and more so is the perfect confidence of the gentleman making the offer, who holds out life to those already becoming emaciated, and says: "Be cured."

The invitation is certainly worthy of the consideration of the afflicted, who, for years, have been taking nauseous nostrums without effect; who have ostracised themselves from home and friends to live in the more salubrious climes, where the atmosphere is more congenial to weakened lungs, and who have fought against death with all the weapons and strength in their hands. There will be no mistake in sending for these bottles—the mistake will be in passing the invitation by.

MASSING LOW-GROWING PLANTS.—How much beauty we miss in setting flowers singly and mixedly instead of massing each separate kind. Many kinds that have no real importance singly, when massed are extremely beautiful, displaying a single sheet of flowers. The verberna, under this culture, also abronia, calliopsis, salpiglossis and eschscholtzia, should always be grown in masses. All dwarf plants make a better display in this way.

M. A. H.

GRAPES FOR THE NORTH.—Dr. T. H. Hoskins, who has made many valuable tests in regard to hardy trees and plants at the north, found that Moore's Early would not ripen at his place, Newport, Vt., and had almost given up the idea of grape raising there. He tried the Green Mountain or Winchell, and the Diamond, and found them both to ripen perfectly, the first named a little in advance of the last.

Floral Decorations. Calla Buds Blasting.

1—Will some one who has had experience and practice in arranging flowers for church decorations please give some good suggestions?

2—Do you think just touching the buds of the calla or moving the pots from one bench or window to another has anything to do with blasting the buds?
Orwell, N. Y. U. F.

1—Perhaps the first inquiry here will find an answer in the succeeding articles in the series of which the first appears on the first page of this issue.

3—The cause named is not sufficient to injure the buds. There is some other reason for it,—perhaps furnace or stove gas.

Potato Scab.

I see in the January number of your Magazine a piece on potato scab, and would like to tell my way of avoiding it. Before the ground is harrowed the last time I have a liberal coat of wood ashes spread on and harrowed in, using more of soft wood ashes than of hard wood. When the ground has been so treated I never have had scabby potatoes, although the seed planted may have been badly scabby, and very seldom are any of the tubers affected in the least with rot.
Mrs. A. R. M.

A GREAT OFFER!

"FOOLS OF FORTUNE,"

Union Gospel News (weekly) One Year,
Pamphlet entitled "Fizzie," and a
Handsome Picture,
ALL FOR \$1.50.

"Fools of Fortune," by John P. Quinn, a professional gambler for twenty-five years, is the greatest warning against gambling ever written.

Contains 640 pages, profusely illustrated.

Highly Endorsed by . . .

Dr. C. H. PARKHURST, Prof. David Swing, Dr. Lyman Abbott, Miss Frances Willard, ex-Gov. Chas. P. Johnson, and thousands of other prominent people.

We have the exclusive right to the sale of this book.

The Union Gospel News is an undenominational Religious Weekly, with a circulation of over 150,000. Is peculiarly adapted to the upbuilding of Christian character in the daily walks of life.

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY.

Send \$1.50 to The Gospel News Co.
Cleveland, Ohio,
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DO YOU WASH DISHES?

No need of it. The Faultless Quaker will do it for you and save time, hands, dishes, money, and patience; no scalded hands, broken or chipped dishes, no muss. Washes, rinses dries and polishes quickly. Made of best material, lasts a lifetime. Sell at sight. Agents, women or men of honor desiring employment may have paying business by writing now for descriptive circulars and terms to agents.

The QUAKER NOVELTY CO., Salem, O.

SOLD!

UNDER A POSITIVE GUARANTEE

to wash as clean as can be done on the washboard and with much more ease. This applies to Terri's Perfect Washing Machine which will be sent on trial at wholesale price, if not satisfactory money refunded. Agents Wanted. For exclusive territory, terms and prices write PORTLAND MFG. CO., Box 73 Portland, Me.

Chichester's English Diamond Brand. PENNYROYAL PILLS

Original and Only Genuine.

SAFE, always reliable. DIES ask Druggist for Chichester's English Diamond Brand in Red and Gold metallic boxes, sealed with blue ribbon. Take no other. Refuse dangerous substitutions and imitations. At Druggists, or send 4c. in stamps for particulars, testimonials and "Relief for Ladies," in letter, by return Mail. 10c. 40c. Testimonials. Name Paper. Chichester Chemical Co., Madison Square, Sold by all Local Druggists. Philada., Pa.

SHOWY SEA SHELLS.

My Chautauqua Shell Collection, consisting of 33 showy polished shells from all parts of the world, for \$2.00 bill. Largest stock of Shells in America. Catalogue for stamp. WALTER F. WEBB, Albion, N. Y.

DECORATING AND UTILITY COMBINED.

THE lack of moisture in the atmosphere of our homes, especially where they are heated by furnace or natural gas, has been a much discussed problem. I have noted various devices for overcoming this evil, some of which are anything but ornamental, viz: The placing of vessels containing water on the registers, these vessels being granite kettles, or any sort of kitchen utensil! Certainly the majority of furnaces are provided with a water tank, but it is perhaps more often empty than otherwise.

My method during the past winter was to arrange some of my plants in such a way as to render them useful in moistening the air to some degree. Very early in the fall I placed a great number of cuttings of the various species of Wandering Jew (*Tradescantia*) in broad, somewhat shallow glass vessels, such as are used in laboratories and called "bell jars." These bell jars hold two quarts or more of water. I placed two of these vessels on each end of the piano, and two on the top or bric-a-brac shelf of two book cases. In a little while the cuttings put out roots and have continued to grow thriftily all winter. Some of the vines are over a yard in length now, and have been much admired during the winter. I have four varieties—as far as markings and color are concerned, at least—and altogether they make a pretty combination. The green and white and the pink and white ones do not grow quite so readily, perhaps, as the green and red striped and the plain green ones, but a few of these brighter, more showy kinds add much to the beauty of these graceful

decorations. These commodious jars are just the place in which to grow umbrella plants, water hyacinths, etc. I set the pots containing the plants in the bell jars, and the plants have done nicely and added much to the cheeriness of the rooms during the entire winter.

It is surprising what a quantity of water is evaporated from the jars, but they are easily filled and there is never any danger of pouring too much water in, and thus running them over, as often happens in watering plants in flower pots. Although I cannot say how much moisture was given off from these jars, I am sure my vines grew and were very ornamental, and we have not felt that the air was dry and harsh, though the house is heated by a furnace and we burn natural gas. The vines are well worth the trouble of caring for them from an æsthetic point of view alone, and if the air is rendered better by their presence, grown as described, they should be largely patronized.

MRS. KELLERMAN.

FREE TO INVALID LADIES.

A lady who suffered for years found a safe and simple home treatment that completely cured her without the aid of medical attendance, of uterine troubles, displacements, leucorrhea, and other irregularities. She will send it free, with full instructions how to use it, to any suffering woman who will send her name and address to Mrs. L. Hudnut, South Bend, Ind.

THE TRICK TOP.

A neat and amusing toy is the glass top which is advertised in another column. It spins in fifty different ways. Is of strong, tough glass, almost impossible to break. Can be spun on a polished table without scratching or marring in the least. Children are delighted with it.

Beecham's pills for constipation 10¢ and 25¢. Get the book at your druggist's and go by it.

Annual sales more than 6,000,000 boxes.



FACTS FROM THE FACTORY.

The Page is the only elastic fence made, and requires special wire. Our contracts for the manufacture of this wire cover many thousands of tons, all guaranteed to suit the purpose. The Superintendents of the largest mills in the country have spent days at our factory studying our particular needs. This wire costs more than the common article, which could not be used if furnished free. Our complete fence costs the farmer less than he can buy the wire of which it is made and is the cheapest in the end.

PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.

FITS CURED

(From U. S. Journal of Medicine.)

Prof. W. H. Peeke, who makes a specialty of Epilepsy, has without doubt treated and cured more cases than any living Physician; his success is astonishing. We have heard of cases of 20 years' standing cured by him. He publishes a valuable work on this disease which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any sufferer who may send their P.O. and Express address. We advise anyone wishing a cure to address, Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St., New York.

CANARY BIRDS that have ceased to chirp either from illness, exposure or on account of moulting, can be made to warble tuneful melodies by placing a cake of BIRD MANNA in their cages. It acts almost like a charm in restoring them to song. It is an absolute necessity to the health, comfort and hygiene of CAGE BIRDS. It is made after the Andreasberg recipe. Sold by druggists, grocers and bird dealers. Mailed to any P. O. in the U. S. or Canada for 15 cts., by the BIRD FOOD CO., 400 N. 3d St., Philadelphia, Pa. Bird Book free.

PATENTS Thomas P. Simpson, Washington, D. C. No attorney's fee until patent obtained. Write for Inventor's Guide.

BOOKS STANDARD, REDUCED TO 10¢ NEW CATALOGUE FREE POPULAR BOOK CO., CHICAGO

FAT FOLKS

Using "ANTI-CORPULENE PILLS" lose 15 lbs. in 8 months. Cause no sickness, contain no poison and never fail. Sold by Druggists everywhere or sent by mail. Particulars (sealed) 4c. WILCOX SPECIFIC CO., Phila., Pa.

A REVELATION

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Waverley Bicycles. Are the Highest of All High Grades. PRICE, \$85.

Do not be misled by unscrupulous dealers. Insist on having the best. Warranted superior to any bicycle built in the world, regardless of price. Get our catalogue 'G' free, by mail, before buying. Indiana Bicycle Co., Indianapolis, Ind., U.S.A.

Marshall's Catarrh Snuff

has never been equaled for the instant relief of Catarrh, Cold in the Head and Headache. Cures Deafness, restores lost sense of smell. Sixty years on the market. All Druggists sell it. 25c. per bottle. F. C. KEITH, Mfr., Cleveland, O.

AN IDEAL FAMILY MEDICINE

For Indigestion, Biliousness, Headache, Constipation, Bad Complexion, Offensive Breath, and all disorders of the Stomach, Liver and Bowels.

R.I.P.A.N.'S TABULES act gently yet promptly. Perfect digestion follows their use. Sold by druggists or sent by mail. Price 50 cents a box. Address **RIPANS CHEMICAL CO., 10 Spruce St., N.Y.**

WRINGING WET

Clothes is a part of every wash. Does your wringer wring dry? Do the rolls wear well? Be sure on both these points, when purchasing a Wringer, by insisting on having the **WARRANTED ROLLS** of the **AMERICAN WRINGER CO.**, the largest manufacturers of wringers and Rolls in the world, with a capital of **\$2,500,000** back of their warrant. See our name and warrant stamped on Rolls. Books of useful wringer information **FREE**. Address 99 Chambers Street, New York.

AGENTS to sell Household Specialties everybody needs. Quick sales. Big profits. **Sherman & Butler, 16 N. Canal St., Chicago.**

OILY SKIN. ITCHING SCALP. Falling Hair, all Skin and Scalp Diseases. Twenty years' experience. **JOHN H. WOODBURY, 127 W. 42d St., N. Y.** Branches: Boston, Phila., St. Louis, Chicago. 150 p. book on Beauty & Dermatology, for a stamp.

LOOK AT YOUR FACE. Pimples, Freckles, Blackheads, Blotches, Rough, Oily Skin, Redness and all facial blemishes positively cured by Dr. Campbell's Safe Arsenic Complexion Wafers. Perfectly harmless and the only genuine arsenic wafers made. By mail \$1; 6 boxes \$5. Depot, 218 Sixth Ave., New York.

WORK ING people, male or female old or young, earn \$30 to \$60 a week, day or evening, in their own town. Requires no capital. Samples free. **KENDALL & CO., Manchester, N. H.**

Hides & Skins Tanned for robes and rugs. Soft, light, moth-proof, and odorless. Circular free. **The CROSBY FRISIAN FUR CO., Box 30, Rochester, N.Y.**

REX BEGONIAS.

THE plants of this royal family have quite aristocratic tastes, and are probably at their best only in a greenhouse; nevertheless, when their nature and wants are understood they may be made to give their beauty graciously in such plebeian quarters as the ordinary living room. In the deep shade of tropical forests, in an atmosphere redolent with moisture and a soil formed of fallen and decayed leaves, the begonia, we are told, is at home. These, then, are the conditions—warmth, moisture, shade, and a light, rich soil—which we must endeavor to supply if we would succeed with the Rex begonia. My own plan is as follows: Pot the plants in a soil composed of leaf-mold, garden soil, and sand, with a couple of inches of charcoal in the bottom for drainage. I then take a shallow pan, paint it inside and out and fill half full of sand. In the center I set the pot with the begonia, fill in on top of the sand between the pot and sides of the pan with moss, and place in a good light with but little sun. The sand is kept wet, which keeps the moss fresh and green and also furnishes by evaporation the moist atmosphere the begonia likes. Of course the soil in the pot must also be kept well watered, but care must be taken not to wet the leaves, as this causes them to rot. When sweeping I pin a newspaper into a "cocked hat" to keep off the dust.

The ordinary method of propagating Rex begonias by leaf cuttings is well understood, but the fact that they may be as readily started from pieces of leaves is perhaps not so generally known. The process is very simple when one knows exactly how, but requires some care. I will explain it as clearly as I can: Take a healthy, well developed leaf, remove the stem and lay face downward on a smooth board; begin at one side, say the right, with a sharp knife cut close along the left of the first mid-rib from the outer edge of the leaf down through the point at which the ribs meet—the point where the stem joins the leaf. Remove the portion of the leaf at the right of the next rib and throw it away; cut along the left of the third rib as in the first case; this will give two sections. Proceed in like manner until the leaf is finished. This will give several sections with a rib on each side, or a rib and leaf margin as will be the case with the first and last sections. Insert the points in sand—clean, sharp river sand is best—keep wet and in a warm, shady place. In a few weeks the old leaf section will die away and a new shoot appear. Pot and treat the same as old plants.

LILLIE SHELTON.

VICK'S DOLLAR COLLECTION OF BULBS.

I HAD my first experience this past winter with bulbs. I always imagined bulbs could be brought to perfection only in a greenhouse. Last fall, however, I was tempted by Vick's generous "Dollar Collection of Bulbs!" So much was offered I could not resist.

How much anticipation I potted with those bulbs! There were hyacinths, tulips, freesias, crocuses, oxalis, allium, etc. I imagined my windows full of bloom and the house pervaded with delicious odors. The pots with the precious bulbs were consigned to the cellar, and cared for faithfully until the abundant root-growth warranted their appearance in the light. The "oldest settlers" declare this has been an extremely severe winter, and I am sorry to say that some of my bulbs succumbed to the influence of protracted cold waves. Notwithstanding my loss, however, I have had my expectations more than realized. The hyacinths were and are beautiful, for they still make the house bright and fragrant. The magnificent large bunches of bloom called forth continual ejaculations of admiration. The colors were of the daintiest—cream white with a tinge of pink, lavender, pink, etc. The tulips were also pretty, but withered sooner. The alliums bore a pretty, cheery, little white flower, and bloomed a long time. Now that I have tried my hand at it I shall not let a winter pass without a generous supply of bulbs. The hyacinths, it seems to me, rob a dark winter's day of its gloom more than any other plants. They are so easily cared for that I wonder they are not more commonly grown as house plants.

My first bed of bulbs out-doors was made last fall. I sometimes fear the changeable weather or the severe cold may have wrought sad havoc with my hopes there,—but if all goes well there will be a bed of beauty in early spring—daffodils, tulips, crocuses; but though March is here the snow and cold still linger and my bulbs are yet sleeping and dreaming of spring.

MRS. KELLERMAN.

NOW—THE TIME TO MAKE MONEY.

Last month I cleared, after paying all expenses, \$175.46; the month before, \$149.93, and have at the same time attended to my regular business. I believe anyone, anywhere, can do as well, as I have not a particularly good location and no experience. When you have an article that every family wants, it is very easy selling it. It seems strange that a good, cheap Dish Washer was never before placed on the market. With the Climax, which sells at \$5, you can wash and dry the dishes for a family in two minutes, without putting the hands in water; as soon as people see the Washer work they want one, and that is why so much money can be made so quickly. For full particulars address The Climax Mfg. Co., Columbus, Ohio. I feel convinced that any lady or gentleman, in any location, can make from \$5 to \$10 a day, as every family will very soon have a Dish Washer. Try it and publish your experience for the benefit of others.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS at 5c.

EVERY ONE PRIZE WINNERS

Mrs. W. K. Harris, rich golden yellow, incurved, a beauty. Roslyn, clear mermet pink, immense size. Col. Wm. B. Smith, immense solid mass of richest golden bronze. Ruth Cleveland, a most delicate silvery pink, very chaste. Christopher Columbus, the finest red Chrysanthemum extant. Emma Hitzeroth, completely hides the plant with bright lemon yellow flowers. Francis M. Ward, immense flower of the purest snow white, 10 inches in diameter. Mrs. Dr. Phil. Macon, rich wine red, reverse silvery pink, extra fine. Dr. Covert, bright golden yellow, perfectly double, superb. Mrs. Fanny Marchman, salmon or Indian red, large and showy. Edward Hatch, lemon yellow suffused with pink, grand. Fair Maid of Perth, purest white, sometimes tipped rose, a beauty. V. H. Halleck, rosy pearl of waxy texture, a prize winner anywhere. Tusaka Takaka, beautiful bluish striped white, immense spreading flower. Mrs. S. J. Coleman, deep golden yellow, none better. Lillian E. Bird, exquisite shade of shrimp pink, a beauty in every respect. Miss M. McCowen, pure white with deep flush of pink. Sunnyside, flesh tint changing to pure white, distinct. Mrs. C. E. Coleman, deep red, reverse gold tipped with flame color. Peculiarity, rosy crimson, awarded medal of excellence.

We are headquarters for all kinds of Roses, Plants, Seeds and Bulbs. Our large illustrated catalogue mailed for 10 cts. in stamps. We are the largest Rose growers in the world. Address

Good & Reese Co., Box 44 Champion Greenhouses, Springfield, Ohio.

Borax Receipt Book Free 80 pages. For Laundry, Kitchen, Toilet, Bath, Complexion and Hair. 200 ways to use Borax. Send postal. Pacific Coast Borax Co., 269 Dearborn St., Chicago

AN EXAMPLE OF AMERICAN GENIUS.

"They kept the pig in the parlor" was the eccentricity charged in song against certain Emerald Islanders. This was doubtless "the making of the pig," but a little rough on the parlor. The farmer of today can hatch the chickens in the parlor without prejudice either to the parlor or the chickens if he uses the Model Excelsior incubator, for this birch-wood box, with its highly polished mahogany finish and brass trappings, makes a piece of furniture handsome enough to stand alongside of the piano. Twelve years of incubator-building has qualified Mr. George H. Stahl for the production of a machine without a superior in the world. His manufacturing plant is in Quincy, Ill. A handsome catalogue explains it all with clearness.

You Dye in 30 minutes

Our turkey red dye on cotton won't freeze, boil or wash out—all others will. Tonk's French Dyes are different from others. Just the thing for hard times. Make the carpets, dresses, capes and clothing as bright and attractive as new. Anyone can do it. No misses if you have Tonk's. Try them and see. Send 4c. for 6 pkgs., or 10c. for one, any color. Big pay for agents. Write quick. Mention this paper. FRENCH DYE CO., Vassar, Mich.

PERESPATION CREAM will cure the worst case of sweaty feet with two or three applications. Guaranteed to leave them in a healthful condition. Sent postpaid on receipt of 50 cents. HERBERT & CO., 927 Pomeroy Ave., Sidney, Ohio.



MY HUSBAND

Can't see how you do it. \$60 Kenwood Machine for - \$23.00 \$50 Arlington Machine for - \$19.50 Standard Singers - \$8.00, \$11.00 \$15.00, and 27 other styles. All attachments FREE. We pay freight ship anywhere on 30 days free trial, in any home without asking one cent in advance. Buy from factory. Save agents large profits. Over 100,000 in use. Catalogue and testimonials Free. Write at once. Address (in full), CASH BUYERS' UNION, 158-164 West Van Buren St., B 40, Chicago, Ill.

DOLLARS FUN AND COMFORT

Hale's Book tells the story. Describes and prices Best Berries, Currants, Grapes, Asparagus, Rhubarb, Hardy Peaches, Japan Plums, and other mortgage lifters. Drop postal now. Hale Bros., South Glastonbury, Conn.



ALL ABOUT POULTRY,

and Johnson's Poultry Annual for 1895, for a 2-ct. stamp. Articles on Poultry and how to care for. Poultry Houses and how to build, with illustrations. Also a catalogue of Choice Poultry, prices of Eggs and Poultry Supplies. Send 2-ct. stamp to G. M. T. JOHNSON, Box 11, Binghamton, N. Y.

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FLOWER SEEDS



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FOR 12 CENTS and the name and address of two of your friends who grow flowers, I will send, post paid, the complete collection, one pkt. each of the ten varieties (enough for any ordinary garden.) This is a **BONAFIDE** offer, made to introduce my home grown flower seeds to new customers and which I guarantee to please you or the amount paid refunded, and the seeds given as a present.

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HYPERICUM.

LAST spring I received a box of plants by express and I found therein several unexpected extras. One of them was labeled "Hypericum." I retired to the garret and sat on the floor for an hour, surrounded by catalogues and floral magazines, but not a word could I find about the plant, so I concluded that it must be something entirely new and therefore all the more delightful.

Of course I hadn't the ghost of an idea what to do with it, but there were several feet of snow out of doors so I concluded to make the hypericum into a house plant. Being short of pots I selected a pint can, carefully peeled off the fine red lobster which adorned it, and then re-decorated it with paint, after which I rolled it (the can, not the lobster) in nice clean sand.

I put more sand of better quality inside the pot and gave it a sunny window. It was full of buds when it came, and they soon opened and the flowers were beautiful. The color was the rich yellow of the buttercup and the small plant simply bristled with blossoms.

During the summer it took care of itself on the doorstep. Sometimes it was watered, some time it wasn't; but it was green and flourishing in the fall, so I gave it a front seat in the south window, which seemed to suit it admirably.

Now, in March, it is again covered with buds and the pretty, trailing branches are very graceful. It is a wonderfully clean looking plant and has never been troubled with insects, although I have a fine assortment of aphids and red spider to contend with in that particular window.

Altogether it has been very satisfactory, though possibly it might have done better with different treatment.

I find it advertised this spring and appropriately nicknamed "The Gold Flower." It is said to be hardy and an excellent bedder, but I am more than satisfied to keep mine a house plant. C. W. R.

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Not only possess a clear and brilliant COMPLEXION, but must also have a perfectly developed BUST. To attain and retain beauty's chief charm, a perfect BUST, you must consult a specialist. No matter how severe your case, write me and I will make you a proud and happy woman. My famous **CELNART** is guaranteed to develop the BUST from 3 to 5 in.; permanently removes wrinkles and fills out all hollows in the Face, Throat and Neck.

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WORK ING people, male or female, old or young, earn \$30 to \$60 a week, day or evening, in their own town. Requires no capital. Samples free. **KENDALL & CO.,** Manchester, N. H.

WALL PAPER 3 cts. to 50 cts. a roll. Send 8 cts. for 100 fine samples. \$1 will buy handsome paper and border for a large room. Paper Hangers' large, complete sample books, \$1.00. **THOS. J. MYERS,** 1206 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

CELOSIA GLASGOW PRIZE.

Of all the new plants I have tried this year Glasgow Prize Celosia has the most surpassed my expectations. I am not a particular admirer of cockscombs, but after reading many paragraphs in praise of this new strain I concluded to try it, and I may as well say now that henceforward this fine celosia will be as regular a standby in my garden as are the salvia and the petunia for summer, or the dahlia for early fall display. The plants require no fussing with to do well, and they make one of the most magnificent displays from midsummer on that it is possible to conceive of. Incidentally I found they would endure hardship far better than the average bedder. My plants were well cared for while small, and had a deep, mellow bed quite to their liking. But with summer came sickness, and a severe drouth set in almost at the same time. The water tank, determined to have a finger in the pie of general misfortunes, sprang a leak and left only water enough to supply the most pressing needs. The celosias were left to combat with weeds and drouth as best they could, and that over half lived and bloomed is proof of strong vitality, as nearly all the other bedding plants exposed to the afternoon sun suffered more than that. For ten weeks the celosias were untouched and uncared for. Then, the last of July or first of August, a crimson flame began to creep through the weeds and grass that overshadowed them. Conscience stricken, a tardy weeding was given, together with a little water. Then came the welcome rains, and our cockscombs quickly responded in ample expansion of comb and increased brilliancy of color. The latter was something wonderful; in the sunshine each head of bloom glowed like fire—a wave of crimson, brilliant, deep and rich—until frost cut them down in middle October. The plants were the cynosure of all eyes, never attaining a height above eleven inches, but expanding into huge heads, some of which measured sixteen inches in length and thirteen inches in breadth. There was not a single comb but what measured at least eight inches across. Was not that a pretty good record?

Some of the least forward plants were carefully lifted with the ball of earth around their roots unbroken. These made a pretty display in the window for two months when they began to lose their brilliancy and were removed to give place to the incoming Holland bulbs.

Pineville, Mo.

LORA S. LA MANCE.

SANTA BARBARA FLOWER FESTIVAL.—Santa Barbara is preparing for the Flower Festival of 1895, and calls on all lovers of flowers, whether residents or visitors, to assist. The Festival will take place on April 17th, 18th and 19th, and will end appropriately with a grand ball. Since 1891, when the elected chief of the nation presided at the first Flower Festival in Santa Barbara, each year has seen a repetition of the event, and each year with increasing success and popularity. Today the Santa Barbara Flower Festival is known the world over, and visitors come from every land to admire the perfection of the climate, the beauty of the scenery and the marvelous variety and richness of the flowers. There will be an exhibition of fruits and flowers in the pavilion afternoon and evening. The display of flowers, and particularly of roses, is always wonderfully attractive. On the second day will take place the grand floral procession of decorated floats, carriages, carts, equestrians, etc., to be immediately followed by the *bataille de fleurs* and the distribution of prizes. On the evening of the third day there is to be a grand concert by the American Concert Band of forty pieces, of San Francisco. The band includes some of the finest solo performers in this or any other country. Finally the last day closes with a grand flower festival ball at the pavilion. The ball will be opened with a minuet and dances in costume. The pavilion itself will be transformed into a bit of fairyland.

A CHANCE TO MAKE MONEY.

I am out of debt, and thanks to the Dish Washer business for it. In the past five weeks I have made over \$500, and I am so thankful that I feel like telling everybody, so that they can be benefited by my experience. Anybody can sell Dish Washers because everybody wants one, especially when it can be got so cheap. I believe that in two years from now every family will have one. You can get full particulars by addressing the Iron City Dish Washer Co., E. E. Pittsburg, Pa., and you can't help but make money in this business. I believe that I can clear over \$3,000 the coming year, and I am not going to let such an opportunity pass without improvement. We can't expect to succeed without trying.

MRS. B.

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URINARY DISEASES and RHEUMATISM. We know that **ALKAVIS** is a Positive Cure for these diseases, and to prove to you its Wonderful Effects, and for the sake of introduction, we will send you enough for one week's use, by mail, prepaid, **FREE**, if you are a sufferer. It is an unfailing cure. A trial costs you nothing. Address, **The CHURCH KIDNEY CURE CO., 416 Fourth Avenue, New York.**

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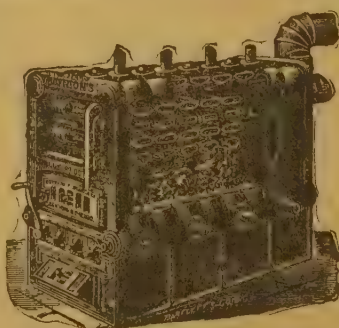
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GIVE UNIVERSAL SATISFACTION.

Mechanical construction unexcelled! Ratings on a careful and conservative basis!! Highest testimonials from parties using them!!!

THE CANNA.

This stately and elegant plant is finding its way into popular favor at a very rapid rate and it is deserving of all the attention it is receiving. No garden plant brings with it a stronger suggestion of the tropics, and it is unrivalled as a plant for a background, while it takes the place of shrubbery on the lawn.

The canna has in recent years been an object of no little scientific research and many experiments have been made looking to its improvement. Its insignificant flower has long been a source of dissatisfaction, but this objection no longer obtains, since the flower is now in harmony with the elegance of the plant itself.

This is particularly true of the Madame Crozy with its brilliant scarlet and yellow flowers borne on long spikes and in great profusion. The foliage is a vivid green and the plant is one of the most striking in all the canna family.

Alphonse Bouvier is another striking and rarely beautiful canna, bearing great clusters of the richest crimson flowers.

Capitaine P. de Suzzoni has very showy spotted flowers of red and yellow. The red spots are very distinct and the flowers greatly increase the showy splendor of the entire plant.



NEW FRENCH CANNAS.

Explorateur Crampel is another spotted variety; the flowers being scarlet spotted with crimson.

Egandale is a splendid canna, bearing flowers of a rich red in great profusion.

Most of us are a little impatient, and we do not like to wait until the second season for flowers from our plants. If one can sow the seeds under glass, and transplant carefully, flowers can sometimes be had the first year in this manner, but it is better to be patient and wait until the second year, when the increased beauty of the flowers will repay one for the delay. One ought to be willing to wait patiently for so great and so certain a reward.

H. H. H.

OF the book "Fools of Fortune," the exclusive sale of which is controlled by the *Union Gospel News*, Cleveland, Ohio, Rev. C. H. Parkhurst, D. D., New York, says: "Fools of Fortune deals with a vice that is staining with its insidious touch multitudes of every class of society. Mr. Quinn has uncovered secrets that need nothing so much as to have light and air let in upon them; and has put under obligation all who are seeking to deal intelligently and thoroughly with the maladies that infest the body social." See advertisement in another column.

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL OF ALL.

I think it was some time in January that I got a money order at our post office for \$1, thinking I would send for the Magazine and a few seeds, for I thought that would be all I could afford this year, times are so hard. I thought I would wait a few days until the new catalogue came; I became almost impatient sometimes at its long delay, but when it did come it was the most beautiful one of all I have had. I quite agree with E. A. H. in Letter Box of February. I told mother a few days ago I was going to put the covers in my card album, but the index, which has to be referred to so often, prevents; by the time the book has been used a year I am afraid the covers will become soiled; it is a beautiful book. Instead of one dollar's worth of seeds being sufficient I have selected to the amount of \$3.50, and this is not nearly all I would like, but I must have these. My little flower garden gave me great pleasure all last season—it is really an inspiration to me. I took several prizes at our Fair,—first prize on asters, seed of my own saving, planted out early, to use for cut flowers. They were beautiful specimens; the plants from my best seed were very much injured by the drought. Thank you very much for the Magazine; the Letter Box of the February number contained practical information worth a year's subscription.

URBANE FISHER.

Orwell, N. Y.

CUT ROSES.—Do not crowd the vase or bowl with this queen of flowers. There are in truth fixed laws regarding decorative art. We do not all possess the gift of arranging them. Too many blossoms are crowded promiscuously together to render a fine effect. Handled more as nature displays them, in easy negligence, the effect is more desirable and pleasing. A few roses of one or two colors in a large bowl, say three or five, are much lovelier than a dozen of various hues. Single specimens are always most effective.

M. A. H.

A SURE CHANCE TO MAKE MONEY.

I read with interest letters from correspondents. If this, my first letter, escapes the waste basket, I may write others. My old schoolmate made so much money plating knives, forks, &c., I ordered a plating outfit from Gray & Co. Plating Works, Columbus, Ohio. I made \$21 the first week. I get all the plating I can do, and sold three platters at \$64.00 profit. The work is splendid, even on the finest jewelry. Any reader can get circulars by writing, and have profitable employment the year round.

YOUNG READER.

LADY AGENTS. Rubber Undergarment catalog free. MRS. N. B. LITTLE, Chicago, Ill.



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If your dealer is not supplied, we send sample lots post paid on receipt of 10 cts. per card. Sizes, 3 and 5.

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Loops of Thread are Slouchy. Don't Use Them.

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FRANCIS HOOK and EYE, This **FLAT** **EASILY ADJUSTED AND MOVED** **SURFACE EYE** **WHILE FITTING.** **BETTER** **THE NEATEST** **PREVENTS GAPING.** **SPRING HOOK MADE.** **yourself.**

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- 1 pkt. Radish, French Breakfast.
- 1 pkt. Turnip, Early Flat Dutch.
- 1 pkt. Celestial Pepper.

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Every lady buys a STOVE POLISHING MITTEN at sight. Polishes the stove better and quicker than a brush. Sample by mail 35 cts. a set; 4 sets \$1.00. NEW ENGLAND NOVELTY MFG. CO., 24 Portland St., Dept. 30, Boston, Mass. Agents can make \$3 to \$5 per day. Circulars free.

SWAN RIVER DAISY.

This charming little flower is worthy of widest cultivation. In a bed of them by themselves, sown of mixed seeds, their beauty attracted more attention than any other flower. The foliage is most lovely, and the flowers freely produced. For a delicate class of cut flowers, arranged with gypsophila, it is superb.



SWAN RIVER DAISY.

The plants stand the drouth in our northern Vermont better than any other annual, and there is a purity, or child-like simplicity, about the flowers that captivate all hearts. The plants require but little attention, and bear flowers early and late in the greatest profusion.

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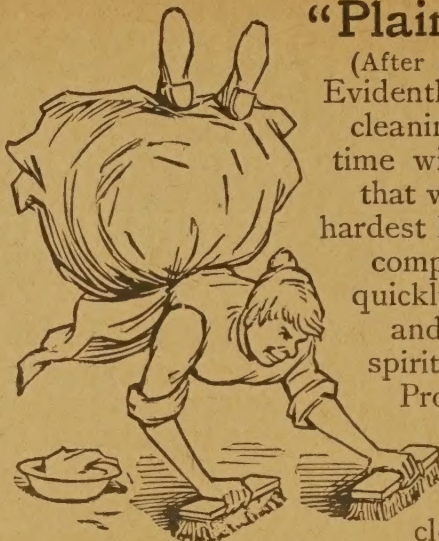
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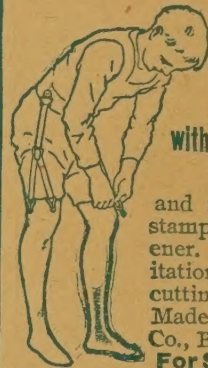
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